Government reaction to Pakistan talks Offer

50. SHRI J. CHITHARANJAN:
SHRI GURUDAS DAS GUPTA:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) what is Government's reaction to the recent change in Pakistan taking over the rule by Army ousting Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif;

(b) whether in an interview on Doordarshan at the Army House in Rawalpindi, General of Army of that country has expressed his desire to meet our Prime Minister; and

(c) if so, the details and Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI JASWANT SINGH): (a) to (c) The military coup in Pakistan of October 1999 remains a matter of concern. We continue to closely monitor and assess developments there.

Government have seen the contents of General Pervez Musharraf's interview telecast on February 7, 2000 on Doordarshan. There is no proposal for a meeting with General Pervez Musharraf. Government is of the view that a process of dialogue with Pakistan necessarily requires the cessation of cross border terrorism and the abandonment of hostile propaganda by Pakistan as necessary ingredients to the creation of a suitable environment.

Fake passports

51. PROF. RAM GOPAL YADAV:
SHRI RAMA SHANKER KAUSHIK:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a large number of people come to India on fake passports;